

REMARKS

Status Summary

Claims 1-32 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 9, 14 and 22 are presented in independent form. Claims 9-21 have been allowed and claims 1-8 and 22-32 are objected to. Claims 1 and 22 are amended.

Allowed Subject Matter and Prior Art Rejections

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowed subject matter and the withdrawal of the claim rejections raised in the prior Action based on Safai.

Claim Objection(s)

Claims 1-8 and 22-32 are objected to for informalities. In particular, claims 1 and 22 are objected to for including minor typographical errors. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's careful review of the claims, and has amended the claims to correct the typographical errors. As such, it will be understood that the scopes of the amended claims have not been narrowed or even changed by this Amendment. Moreover, the rationale underlying the grammatical amendment bears no more than a tangential relation to any equivalent of the amended subject matter. Accordingly, those seeking to interpret these claims should not limit them only to their literal scopes..

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, and noting that no outstanding art rejections remain, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance, and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney at the below-listed number if, after reviewing the above Remarks, the Examiner believes outstanding

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matters remain that may be resolved without the issuance of a subsequent Official Action.

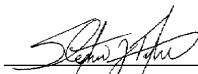
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-3512.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 5, 2006

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